

Amendments to the Claims

1.(amended) A method treating a metallic cord comprising contacting the metallic cord with a naphthenic oil containing from 1 to ~~53~~ 6.3 percent by weight of a soluble cobalt salt and thereby deposit to the cord from 0.002 to ~~0.7~~ 0.15 grams of cobalt per kilogram of steel in the metallic cord.

2.(original) The method of claim 1 wherein said naphthenic oil is directly contacted with the cord by means selected from the group consisting of dipping, spraying, rubbing, wicking and combinations thereof.

3.(amended) The method of claim 1 wherein the naphthenic oil contains from ~~5 to 30~~ 1 to 5 percent by weight of cobalt naphthenate.

4.(cancelled)

5.(original) The method of claim 1 wherein said soluble cobalt salt is selected from the group consisting of cobalt naphthenate, cobalt neodecanoate, cobalt propionate, cobalt stearate, cobalt benzoate and mixtures thereof.

6.(original) The method of claim 1 wherein said soluble cobalt salt is cobalt naphthenate.

7.(original) The method of claim 1 wherein said treated cord is contacted with a rubber composition to form a rubber reinforced article.

8.(original) The method of claim 5 wherein said article is selected from the group consisting of a belt, tire and hose.

9.(original) The method of claim 1 wherein said metallic cord is steel.

10.(original) The method of claim 1 wherein the metallic cord is zinc-plated or brass-plated.

11.(withdrawn)

12.(withdrawn)

13.(withdrawn)

14.(withdrawn)

15.(new) The method of claim 1, wherein the naphthenic oil contains from 1 to 6.3 percent by weight of cobalt neodecanoate.

16.(new) A method treating a metallic cord comprising contacting the metallic cord with a naphthenic oil containing from 1 to 53 percent by weight of cobalt naphthenate and thereby deposit to the cord from 0.002 to 0.7 grams of cobalt per kilogram of steel in the metallic cord.

17.(new) The method of claim 16, wherein the naphthenic oil contains from 5 to 30 percent by weight of cobalt naphthenate.

18.(new) The method of claim 16 wherein said treated cord is contacted with a rubber composition to form a rubber reinforced article.

19.(new) The method of claim 16 wherein said article is selected from the group consisting of a belt, tire and hose.

20.(new) The method of claim 16 wherein said metallic cord is steel.

21.(new) The method of claim 16 wherein the metallic cord is zinc-plated or brass-plated.